

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5 Sampling pipes 21 and 22 are inserted, separated from outlet openings,  
into first and second water softeners 4 and 11. Raw water flows through first  
water softener 4, and raw water does not flow through second water softener 11.  
Once the hardness component concentration of the treatment water sampled by  
sampling pipe 21 reaches a specified concentration, the watercourse selection of  
valves 2 and 6 and valves 9 and 13 are switched, causing raw water to flow  
through second water softener 11. First water softener 4 is regenerated by salt  
water from a salt water chamber 14. The resulting water softening device  
10 prevents the leaking of hardness components, even with there is a fluctuation in  
the water quality of the raw water or when there is performance deterioration in  
the ion exchange resin.